

Appl. No. 09/880,530
Amdt. Dated January 5, 2005
Reply to Office Action December 16, 2004

APP 1292

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Remarks

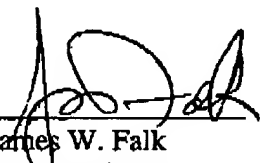
Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 6-9, 11, 12, and 15-20 and that claims 2-5 and 14 were only objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 2, which is being cancelled; claim 3 has been amended to be dependent on amended claim 1; claim 4 has been amended to include all of the limitations of its prior parent claim 1; claim 5 remains dependent on now amended claim 4; and claim 14 has been amended to include all of the limitations of its prior parent claim 13. Allowance of claims 1, 3, 4, 5, and 14 is accordingly requested.

Claims 10 and 13, which were rejected on art, have been cancelled.

In as much as all of the claims now in the application have been allowed or deemed allowable, it is believed that this application is now in condition to be passed to issue, and such action is accordingly respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner deems it would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, she is invited to telephone applicants' attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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